This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 007445

SIPDIS

FOR EUR/WE, NP/ECNP, AND EUR/SE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/04/2013
TAGS: OPDC PREL ETTC KSTC PARM TU
SUBJECT: WASSENAAR: TURKEY WILL SUPPORT JOINT STATEMENT ON
MANPADS

REF: A. STATE 330283
     ¶B. STATE 325046

¶1. (C) PolMilOff delivered ref A letter and joint statement
to MFA Disarmament Head of Department Bulent Meric along with
Italian DCM Gianni Piccato December 4. Meric said the GOT
had received the joint statement earlier from its mission in
Vienna, had decided to support the statement, and had already
sent instructions to its mission to convey FM Gul's support
for the statement.

¶2. (C) As a country that had suffered fatalities as a result
of PKK use of MANPADS against GOT aircraft, Meric said Turkey
was very supportive of more stringent regulation of MANPADS
export and use. Nevertheless, Meric noted that the Turkish
military had some "difficulties" with the working paper being
discussed in Vienna. For example, TGS believed the
provisions for exporting countries controlling the use of
MANPADS by recipient countries were too restrictive and
impractical. He noted specifically the requirement to
separate part of the MANPADS and store them separately. TGS
did support, however, holding exporting countries and
companies responsible if their MANPADS fell into the hands of
illegal entities. When PolMilOff noted the contradiction
between less control by exporters but more accountability,
Meric emphasized that this was TGS's position. He dismissed
the problem by saying that the negotiators in Vienna would
work it out.

¶3. (C) Comment: As it chafes during the annual Stinger
inspections conducted by the US, particularly those in
northern Cyprus, TGS's belief that exporters should have less
control over the storage and use of MANPADS is not
surprising. Given Meric's comment that this was only TGS's
position and would be worked out in Vienna, Embassy expects
the Turks will let consensus form and carry the weight of
overriding TGS.
EDELMAN